

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Withdrawn) A method for preventing contamination of a contacting portion with a paper web in a dry part in a paper machine, where contamination-preventing agent is continuously supplied and applied to a paper web before entering in the dry part.

2. (Withdrawn) A contamination-preventing method in a dry part according to claim 1, wherein the continuous supplying and applying of the contamination-preventing agent to the paper web is constituted by indirect application to the paper web via an applying roller.

3. (Withdrawn) A contamination-preventing method in a dry part according to claim 1, wherein the continuous supplying and applying of the contamination-preventing agent to the paper web is constituted by indirect application to the paper web via a guide roller.

4. (Withdrawn) A contamination-preventing method in a dry part according to claim 1, wherein the continuous supplying and applying of the contamination-preventing agent to the paper web is constituted by indirect application to the paper web via a felt or a wire.

5. (Withdrawn) A contamination-preventing method in a dry part according to claim 1, wherein the continuous supplying and applying of the contamination-preventing agent to the paper web is constituted by direct application to the paper web using a spraying nozzle.

6. (Withdrawn) A contamination-preventing method in a dry part according to claim 1, wherein oil is used as the contamination-preventing agent.

7. (Withdrawn) A contamination-preventing method in a dry part according to claim 5, wherein the oil is mineral oil, vegetable oil, animal oil, or synthetic oil.

8. (Withdrawn) A contamination-preventing method in a dry part according to claim 7, wherein as the oil, one obtained by emulsifying oil using surface active agent is used.

9. (Withdrawn) A contamination-preventing method in a dry part, where polymer is used as the contamination-preventing agent.

10. (Withdrawn) A contamination-preventing method in a dry part according to claim 9, wherein the polymer serving as the contamination-preventing agent is ampholyte copolymer obtained by polymerizing mixture including cationic monomer having ethylene double bond and anionic monomer having ethylene double bond as essential components.

11.-19. (Canceled).

20. (Currently Amended) ~~Contamination~~The contamination-preventing agent according to ~~claim 17~~claim 27, wherein the number of carbon atoms is in a range of 6 to 50 in the non-ionic ~~(non-ionic)~~ monomer.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Withdrawn) A method for preventing contamination of a contacting portion with a paper web in a dry part in a

paper machine, wherein contamination-preventing agent is continuously supplied and applied to a paper web before entering in the dry part, and contamination-preventing agent is further continuously supplied and applied to a portion of the dry part which comes in contact with a paper web.

23. (Withdrawn) A contamination-preventing method for a dry part according to claim 22, wherein the portion of the dry part which comes in contact with a paper web is a dryer, a canvas, a calendar roll, a smoother roll, or a paper roll.

24. (Canceled)

25. (New) In a contamination-preventing agent used to prevent contamination of a contacting portion with a paper web in a drying part of a paper machine and is continuously supplied and applied to a paper web before entering the drying part, the improvement comprising

the contamination-preventing agent is obtained by emulsifying a mineral oil, vegetable oil or animal oil using a surface-active agent.

26. (New) In a contamination-preventing agent used to prevent contamination of a contacting portion with a paper web in a drying part of a paper machine and is continuously supplied and applied to a paper web before entering the drying part, the improvement comprising

the contamination-preventing agent is an ampholyte copolymer obtained by polymerizing a mixture including a cationic monomer having an ethylene double bond and an anionic monomer having an ethylene double bond as essential components,

the cationic monomer is a (meta)acrylic acid ester which contains a quaternary ammonium chlorine, and

the anionic monomer is selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, itaconic acid, fumaric

acid, succinic acid 2-(meta)acryloyloxyethyl and hexahydrophthalate 2-(meta)acryloyloxyethyl.

27. (New) In a contamination-preventing agent used to prevent contamination of a contacting portion with a paper web in a drying part of a paper machine and is continuously supplied and applied to a paper web before entering the drying part, the improvement comprising

the contamination-preventing agent is an ampholyte copolymer obtained by polymerizing a mixture including a cationic monomer having an ethylene double bond, an anionic monomer having an ethylene double bond and a non-ionic monomer as essential components,

the cationic monomer is a (meta)acrylic acid ester which contains a quaternary ammonium chlorine,

the anionic monomer is at least one member selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, fumaric acid, succinic acid 2-(meta)acryloyloxyethyl and hexahydrophthalate 2-(meta)acryloyloxyethyl and

the non-ionic monomer is polyethyleneglycolmono (meta)acrylate and/or polypropyleneglycolmono (meta)acrylate.

28. (New) In a contamination-preventing agent used to prevent contamination of a contacting portion with a paper web in a drying part of a paper machine,

is continuously supplied and applied to a paper web before entering in the drying part and further continuously supplied and applied to a portion of the drying part which comes in contact with a paper web, the improvement comprising

the contamination-preventing agent is obtained by emulsifying a mineral oil, vegetable oil, animal oil or wax using a surface-active agent.

29. (New) In a contamination-preventing agent used to prevent contamination of a contacting portion with a paper web in a drying part of a paper machine,

is continuously supplied and applied to a paper web before entering in the drying part and further continuously supplied and applied to a portion of the drying part which comes in contact with a paper web, the improvement comprising

the contamination-preventing agent is an ampholyte copolymer obtained by polymerizing a mixture including a cationic monomer having an ethylene double bond and an anionic monomer having an ethylene double bond as essential components,

the cationic monomer is a (meta)acrylic acid ester which contains a quaternary ammonium chlorine and

the anionic monomer is at least one member selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, itaconic acid, fumaric acid, succinic acid 2-(meta)acryloyloxyethyl, and hexahydrophthalate 2-(meta)acryloyloxyethyl.

30. (New) In a contamination-preventing agent used to prevent contamination of a contacting portion with a paper web in a drying part of a paper machine,

is continuously supplied and applied to a paper web before entering in the drying part and further continuously supplied and applied to a portion of the drying part which comes in contact with a paper web, the improvement comprising

the contamination-preventing agent is an ampholyte copolymer obtained by polymerizing a mixture including a cationic monomer having an ethylene double bond, an anionic monomer having an ethylene double bond and a non-ionic monomer as essential components,

the cationic monomer is a (meta)acrylic acid ester which contains a quaternary ammonium chlorine,

the anionic monomer is at least one member selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, itaconic acid, fumaric acid, succinic acid 2-(meta)acryloyloxyethyl and hexahydrophthalate 2-(meta)acryloyloxyethyl and

the non-ionic monomer is polyethyleneglycolmono (meta)acrylate and/or polypropyleneglycolmono (meta)acrylate.

31. (New) In a contamination-preventing agent used to prevent contamination of a contacting portion with a paper web in a drying part of a paper machine and is continuously supplied and applied to a paper web before entering the drying part, the improvement comprising

the contamination-preventing agent is an ampholyte copolymer obtained by polymerizing a mixture including a cationic monomer having an ethylene double bond, an anionic monomer having an ethylene double bond and a non-ionic monomer as essential components,

the cationic monomer is (meta)acrylic acid 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)ethylbenzylchloride salt,

the anionic monomer is methacrylic acid and

the non-ionic monomer is polyethyleneglycolmono (meta)acrylate.

32. (New) In a contamination-preventing agent used to prevent contamination of a contacting portion with a paper web in a drying part of a paper machine and is continuously supplied and applied to a paper web before entering the drying part and further continuously supplied and applied to a portion of the drying part which comes in contact with a paper web, the improvement comprising

the contamination-preventing agent is an ampholyte copolymer obtained by polymerizing a mixture including a cationic monomer having an ethylene double bond, an anionic monomer having an ethylene double bond and a non-ionic monomer as essential components,

the cationic monomer is (meta)acrylic acid 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)ethylbenzylchloride salt,

the anionic monomer is methacrylic acid and

the non-ionic monomer is polyethyleneglycolmono (meta)acrylate.

33. (New) The contamination-preventing agent of Claim 26, wherein the (meta)acrylic acid ester is at least one member selected from the group consisting of (meta)acrylic acid 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)ethylmethyl chloride salt, (meta)acrylic acid 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)ethylbenzyl chloride salt and (meta)acrylic acid 3-(N,N-dimethylamino)propylepichlorohydrin hydrochloride.

34. (New) The contamination-preventing agent of Claim 27, wherein the (meta)acrylic acid ester is at least one member selected from the group consisting of (meta)acrylic acid 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)ethylmethyl chloride salt, (meta)acrylic acid 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)ethylbenzyl chloride salt and (meta)acrylic acid 3-(N,N-dimethylamino)propylepichlorohydrin hydrochloride.

35. (New) The contamination-preventing agent of Claim 29, wherein the (meta)acrylic acid ester is at least one member selected from the group consisting of (meta)acrylic acid 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)ethylmethyl chloride salt, (meta)acrylic acid 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)ethylbenzyl chloride salt and (meta)acrylic acid 3-(N,N-dimethylamino)propylepichlorohydrin hydrochloride.

36. (New) The contamination-preventing agent of Claim 30, wherein the (meta)acrylic acid ester is at least one member selected from the group consisting of (meta)acrylic acid 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)ethylmethyl chloride salt, (meta)acrylic acid 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)ethylbenzyl chloride salt and (meta)acrylic acid 3-(N,N-dimethylamino)propylepichlorohydrin hydrochloride.